ABSOLUTE

MARTIAN MANHUNTER™

ALL IN

15+ TEEN+ 3

CAMP
RODRÍGUEZ

A WAR OF TITANS. A BATTLE FOR JUSTICE.

JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. GODZILLA VS. KONG 2

THE COLOSSAL-SIZED SEQUEL TO
THE BESTSELLING ORIGINAL SERIES.

WRITTEN BY BRIAN BUCCELLATO
ART BY CHRISTIAN DUCE

SEVEN-ISSUE SERIES
JUNE

LEGENDARY COMICS

MONSTERVERSE

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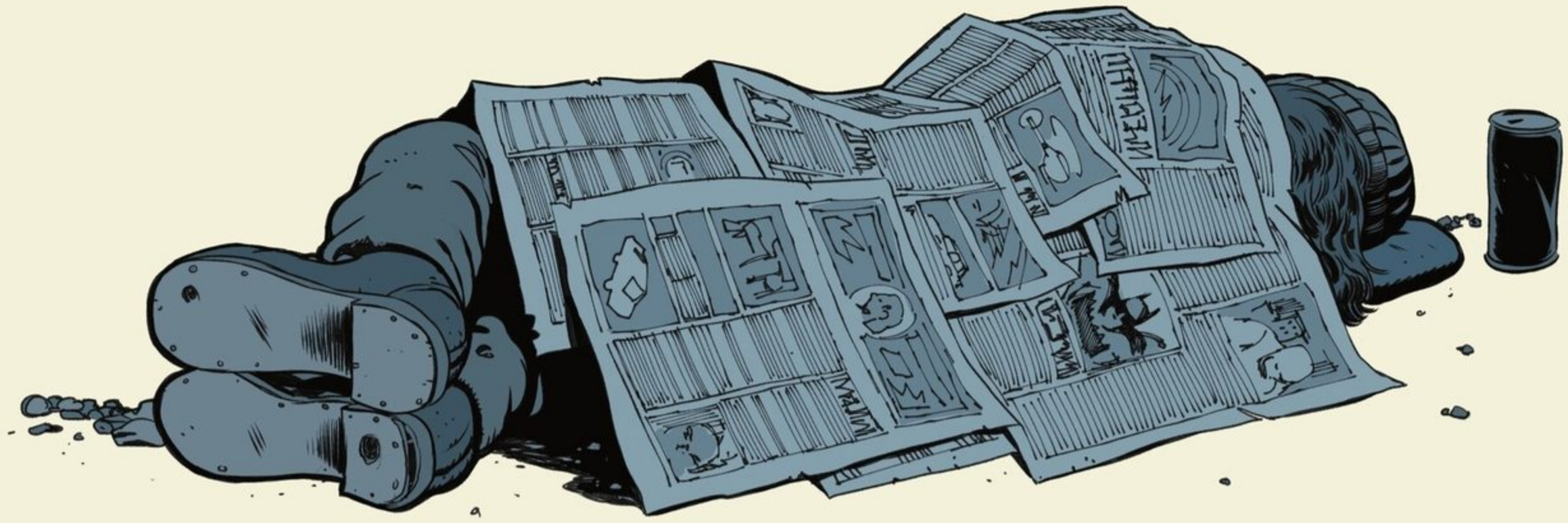

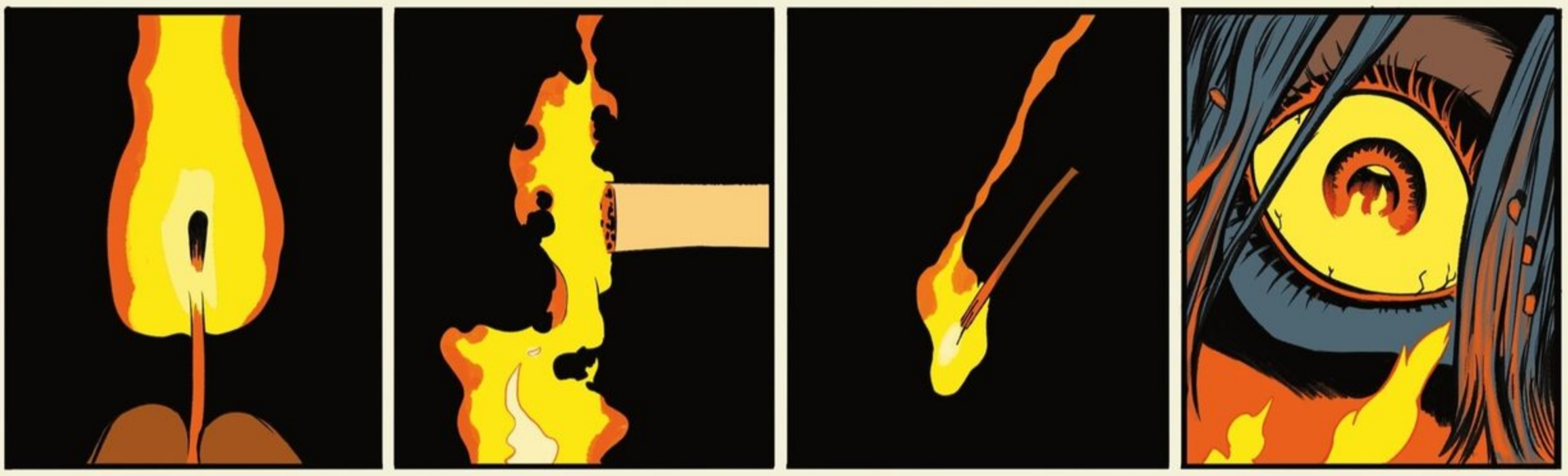

AAiiiiiFFFFFFFFFF

SICK
SIRI

EVEN THOUGH HE'D LIVED ON THE STREETS SINCE HE WAS FOURTEEN, BIG AL'S LAST THOUGHT WAS--
I wanna go home

HE HADN'T HAD A HOME TO GO TO IN TWENTY YEARS, BUT IT'S ALL HE COULD THINK THROUGH THE HEAT AND THE PAIN--

B

C

D

A

I WANNA GO HOME.

HOW MANY VICTIMS?

24.

ALSO 24.

AND HOW MANY PERPS?

ALL AT THE *SAME TIME?*

IT'S A TRAGEDY, I KNOW.

I BETTER BE GETTING OVERTIME FOR THIS $€!%.

A

C

GRAY CLOUDS GATHER AT THE EDGES. YOU CAN ALMOST MAKE OUT THE SHAPES OF PEOPLE, IF YOU SQUINT.

HERE COME THE *NEIGHBORS.*

RADIANT IN RESTRAINED GRIEF. SMUDGED, SPECTACULAR EXPRESSIONS OF LIFE.

THEY KNOW THE SCORE.

EVENTUALLY, EVERYTHING GOES UP IN A--

PUFF

IT IS *WEIRD,* I'LL GIVE YOU THAT. I MEAN, 24 PEOPLE SETTING 24 SEPARATE SLEEPING BUMS ON FIRE AT EXACTLY THE SAME TIME.

FIGURED IT WAS SOME KIND OF *CULT* OR SOMETHING, BUT THEY CLAIM THEY DON'T KNOW EACH OTHER AND THERE'S NOTHING SAYING DIFFERENT.

SO... *WHY?*

SAME WRONG QUESTION.

THAT'S *EASY.* PEOPLE ARE MOSTLY CRAZY AND DO *#@$%€$-UP THINGS* TO EACH OTHER FOR NO REASON AT ALL.

IS THAT YOUR *PROFESSIONAL OPINION,* DETECTIVE MAYWEATHER?

YOU BET.

THEN YOU SHOULD THINK ABOUT CHANGING PROFESSIONS.

€@$% YOU!

I REALLY MEAN IT. THE JOB IS LEACHING INTO HIM LIKE ASBESTOS, MAKING SOFT THINGS HARD.

IF HE KEEPS GOING THIS WAY, SIX YEARS FROM NOW HIS KIDS WILL FIND HIM BEATING HIS WIFE TO DEATH WITH A GOLF CLUB IN THE GARAGE.

I KNOW I SOUND CRAZY. I **KNOW** THAT.

BUT THE MARTIAN WHO LIVES IN MY HEAD ASSURES ME I'M **NOT.**

RESIDUE OF BAD IDEA #1937-231: COMBUSTION-COMPULSION...

...ARSON-INSTINCT...

AND (for some reason) I **BELIEVE** HIM.

"THE EMANCIPATION OF THE IMMOLATED."

C

A

I DON'T UNDERSTAND THESE PEOPLE. WHY DON'T THEY JUST GO TO THE SUNNYSIDE? AT LEAST THEY'D BE ***SAFE*** THERE.

BIG AL DIDN'T LIKE SHELTERS. PEOPLE WERE ALWAYS @$^%#*€ WITH HIM IN THERE. MAKING DARK INTIMATIONS, STEALING HIS SHOES WHILE HE SLEPT.

C

CONCEPT CONSTELLATION: HOME SAFETY SHELTER.

HE LIKED HIS CHANCES BETTER ON THE STREET.

"BIG AL"?

HE A ***FRIEND*** OF YOURS OR SOME-THING?

PARTNER...

I'VE NEVER SEEN THEM BEFORE, I *SWEAR!*

TWENTY-FOUR INDIVIDUALS WHO CLAIM NOT TO KNOW EACH OTHER BUT WHO, IN **PERFECT UNISON,** BURNED FIFTEEN MEN, SIX WOMEN, AND THREE CHILDREN ALIVE.

NONE HAVE CRIMINAL RECORDS.

I'VE N-NEVER DONE ANYTHING LIKE THIS BEFORE IN MY LIFE! I-I JUST GOT THE SUDDEN *URGE...!*

MUST MOVE **QUICKLY...** EXTINGUISH EVERY EMBER, EVERY SPARK...

ALL HAD *REASONS.*

I HAD THIS-- THIS *FLASH* THAT HE... THAT THE HOMELESS GUY WAS MY *FATHER.* H-HE USED TO COME INTO MY ROOM AT NIGHT AND--

PREEXISTING CONDITIONS--

TRAGEDY

ISOLATION

TRAUMA

GENETIC PREDISPOSITIONS

PROCLIVITIES

LIKE KINDLING...

SOME FELT REMORSE.

I'm sorry, I'm s-so sorry...

VICTIMS...

OTHERS DIDN'T.

MY CLIENT HAS NO COMMENT.

THE ONLY THING THEY HAD IN COMMON...

...ALL VICTIMS...

...WAS THE **CLOUD** AROUND THEIR HEADS.

I JUST FELT-- I WAS ALREADY DOING IT BEFORE I DECIDED TO... b-b-but I *did* decide to...

WHICH I DON'T MENTION IN MY REPORT.

YOU KNOW THAT LITTLE VOICE IN THE BACK OF YOUR HEAD, CONSTANTLY TELLING YOU THE WORLD IS GOING TO END?

MANKIND'S LAST GASPS! TRAGIC AND GLORIOUS!

GAUDY, GORGEOUS FUNERAL MARCH!

MINE'S NOT JUST A **VOICE.**

BEST I CAN DESCRIBE IT, IT'S SOMEWHERE BETWEEN A COLOR, A FEELING, AND A **PHILOSOPHY.**

CIVILIZATION'S CLOSING CEREMONIES. BEAUTIFUL TO BEHOLD.

BUT IT'S STILL GETTING THE HANG OF **LANGUAGE...**

GAWKWARD, COINEFFICIENT, **IMPRECISED...**

...THE **THINGS** MEAN **SOUNDS** AND THE **SOUNDS** MEAN **THINGS...** 'ROUND AND 'ROUND...

...AND IT'S WORRIED IT'S NOT GETTING ITS **POINT** ACROSS...

...SO THE WALK FROM THE DRIVEWAY TO THE FRONT DOOR OF MY HOUSE BECOMES AN INCOMPREHENSIBLE ALIEN APOCALYPSE.

-Sigh-

I SHOULD REALLY SEE SOMEONE ABOUT THIS.

I GET WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN. YOU'VE MADE IT VERY *CLEAR.* WHAT I DON'T GET-- WHAT YOU WON'T EXPLAIN-- IS *WHY?*

WHY DOES THIS *"WHITE MARTIAN"* WANT TO DESTROY *ANYTHING?* WHAT DID *WE* DO TO IT?

IT SAYS IT COMES FROM SOMEWHERE SO FAR AWAY IT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE TO SPEAK IN TERMS OF DISTANCE.

THE WHITE MARTIAN HAS DECIDED ON TRAGEDY. I CAN MAKE IT NO CLEARER.

CAN'T OR WON'T?

CAN'T. ANALOGY: EXPLAIN THE **CRIMINAL JUSTICE SYSTEM** TO A **SUNFLOWER SEED.** MAKE A PARAMECIUM UNDERSTAND PROPERTY. LAY OUT PRISONS TO A **PEBBLE.**

UNDERSTAND? CAN'T.

SO I DON'T TALK ABOUT IT AT ALL.

WHITE MARTIAN IS COSMIC PREDATOR CREATOR

IRONIST DESTROYER

A HUNDRED THOUSAND LIFEWORLDS, LOST! WHITE'S GREAT PURPOSE OEUVRE DELIGHT.

TALK TO BRIDGET. SPEND TIME WITH TYLER.

BREATHE DEEP YOUR LIFE, JOHN JONES. WHILE YOU CAN.

THE WHITE MARTIAN HAS DECIDED ON TRAGEDY.

AT HOME THE AIR IS THICK WITH THE THINGS WE THINK BUT DON'T SAY.

...our old friends don't talk to us...

...what kind of relationship will he have with his father if I...?

...feel like I barely know him...

...just want Tyler to be happy, most important thing...

...if I leave, we can stay with my mother...

...took transfer without asking, moved us here without asking...

...why won't he talk to me?

...would he even care?

SO I OPEN A WINDOW TO LET IN SOME LIGHT AND AIR.

BRIDGE, I...

MEMORY OF: SPECIAL AGENT SUTTREE'S DISAPPOINTED FACE, SAYING--

WHY'D YOU HAVE TO GO AND DO IT, KID?

...I'M GOING TO CHECK ON TYLER.

Huh? Oh. HE'S IN HIS ROOM.

TYLER, I--

...TYLER?

RRRGGG

YOU SHOULD TAKE THAT.

JONES.

WHAT?

WHEN?!

NO, I'M JUST STEPPING OUTSIDE NOW. I HAVEN'T--

WEEEOOO

BAD IDEA #1937-231.

WEEEOOOOO

WEEEOOOO

WEEEEOOO

WEEEOOO

WEEEOOOO

"THE EMANCIPATION OF THE IMMOLATED."

WEEEEOOO

WEEEOOOO

WEEEOOOO

THEY CALL MIDDLETON "THE CITY OF SECOND CHANCES."

AND IT CAN BE.

BAPTISTE
HAITIAN FAMILY BAKERY

BAPTISTE
HAITIAN FAMILY BAKERY

SMELL OF GINGER BUNS, SWEAT, SORROW, AND PRIDE.

FREE SANDWICHES COFFEE

ACE

C-COULD I HAVE ONE OF THOSE?

THE WOMAN IN THE STAINED NIGHTGOWN IS STILL IN SHOCK.

HARD TO IMAGINE ALL SHE'S LOST.

EVEN NOW, THE LOVE SHE FEELS FOR HER CHILDREN HITS LIKE A BLAST FURNACE.

YOU COULD INCINERATE DIAMONDS WITH IT.

STRANGERS WERE BURNING DOWN STRANGERS' HOMES.

GAS

GAS

GAS

PEOPLE WERE BURNING DOWN THEIR **OWN** HOMES.

A GANG OF KIDS BURNED THEIR BELOVED PLAYGROUND DOWN.

HOW DO YOU STOP THIS? IT'S JUST RANDOM PEOPLE, SETTING RANDOM FIRES...

NO SUCH THING AS RANDOM. ONLY MISUNDERSTOOD.

OPEN YOUR MY OUR EYE, JOHN. SEE THAT INSIDE IS OUTSIDE IS ALL SIDES. SEE THE IMPLICATE ORDER OF EVERYTHING!

MARTIAN VISION-- THE ABSOLUTE PERSPECTIVE!

NOW-- WHAT DO YOU SEE?

VISION

"I see... I SEE *HOME.*

"NOT JUST MINE. *ALL* OF THEM. EVERY HOME THAT EVER WAS OR WILL BE, ANYWHERE ON THE PLANET.

"THAT'S WHAT IT WANTS. *THAT'S* WHAT IT'S TRYING TO BURN DOWN.

"NOT ANY SPECIFIC HOME-- OR EVEN ALL HOMES-- BUT THE *IDEA* OF HOME."

THE PLACE YOU GO INSIDE YOURSELF. CONCEPT-STELLATION:

HOME.

SAFETY.

H-TEL

"SHELTER."

THE SUNNYSIDE HOTEL IS MIDDLETON'S LARGEST HOMELESS SHELTER.

CRASH!

FWOSH

SUNNYSIDE

MIDDLETON PD, FD, THIS IS AGENT JOHN JONES. THE NEXT TARGET IS THE SUNNYSIDE HOTEL.

I REPEAT, GET DOWN TO THE SUNNYSIDE HOTEL!

THEY CALL IT THE SUNNYSIDE **HOTEL** SO THAT WHEN FAMILIES HAVE TO LEAVE THEIR HOMES, THEY CAN TELL THE KIDS THEY'RE GOING TO THE HOTEL.

LIKE IT'S A VACATION RESORT, INSTEAD OF A **DESPERATE LAST** ONE.

MOST ARE RUNNING FROM SOMETHING.

DADDY FOUND YOU, LITTLE ELLIE! YOU'VE MADE DADDY ANGRY!

POVERTY, PERSECUTION, ABUSE, ADDICTION...

HOW COULD YOU JUST LEAVE? HOW COULD YOU JUST GO?

...RESPONSIBILITIES, DISASTER, DESPAIR.

THEY'VE ALL GOT A REASON. AND THEY'RE ALL DIFFERENT.

WHY CAN'T YOU JUST BE NORMAL WHY CAN'T YOU JUST BE MY SON

BUT THEY'RE ALL BASICALLY DESPERATE FOR THE SAME THING.

CRASH!

GRAB!

A CHANCE.

CRASH!

RACING THROUGH MULLIONED LIGHT, WE WERE JUST A MINUTE OR TWO AWAY ON FOOT.

THE MARTIAN KNOWS MORE DIRECT PATHS THAN "A to B".

SHORTCUTS THROUGH NON-EUCLIDEAN SPACE.

WE GO THROUGH THE SUNNYSIDE ROOM BY ROOM. THE MARTIAN IS DOING SOMETHING TO THE OXYGEN ATOMS AROUND MY SKIN SO THE HEAT DOESN'T TOUCH ME.

?

BUT THE FIRE IS **MORE** THAN FIRE, THE **SMOKE** IS MORE THAN SMOKE.

H TEL

THERE ARE THINGS INSIDE THEM THAT **REFUSE** TO BE **EXTINGUISHED.**

?

AS THE MARTIAN WRESTLES WITH A TANGLE OF ANGER AND ALCOHOL VAPORS...

...I SUDDENLY SMELL BURNING FLESH AND ICY CALM.

I HAVE A MESSAGE FOR... THE GREEN ONE.

JONES!

JONES, YOU OUT HERE?

IT KNOWS... YOU'RE *HERE.* *HIDING...* IN MEAT. IT KNOWS...

...YOU'RE *LOOKING.*

IT... WELCOMES YOU... TO *WATCH.*

IT *LOVES...* AN *AUDIENCE.*

JONES! JONES, WHERE ARE YOU?!

AHHHHH

AAAA

HHHHA

CRASH!

AW, GOD!

AAAHHHHHHHHHHHH...

BRRF

MOST PEOPLE... DON'T *GET* IT. THEY THINK... IT'S ABOUT THE *FIRE.*

IT'S *NOT*... IT'S ABOUT... THE *SMOKE.*

GOD, THAT'S HORRIBLE!

"Changing professions," huh?

YOU GET IT, D-D-DON'T YOU? Y-YEAH, I CAN TELL YOU-- YOU *GET* IT.

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1:50 variant cover
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Katie Kubert
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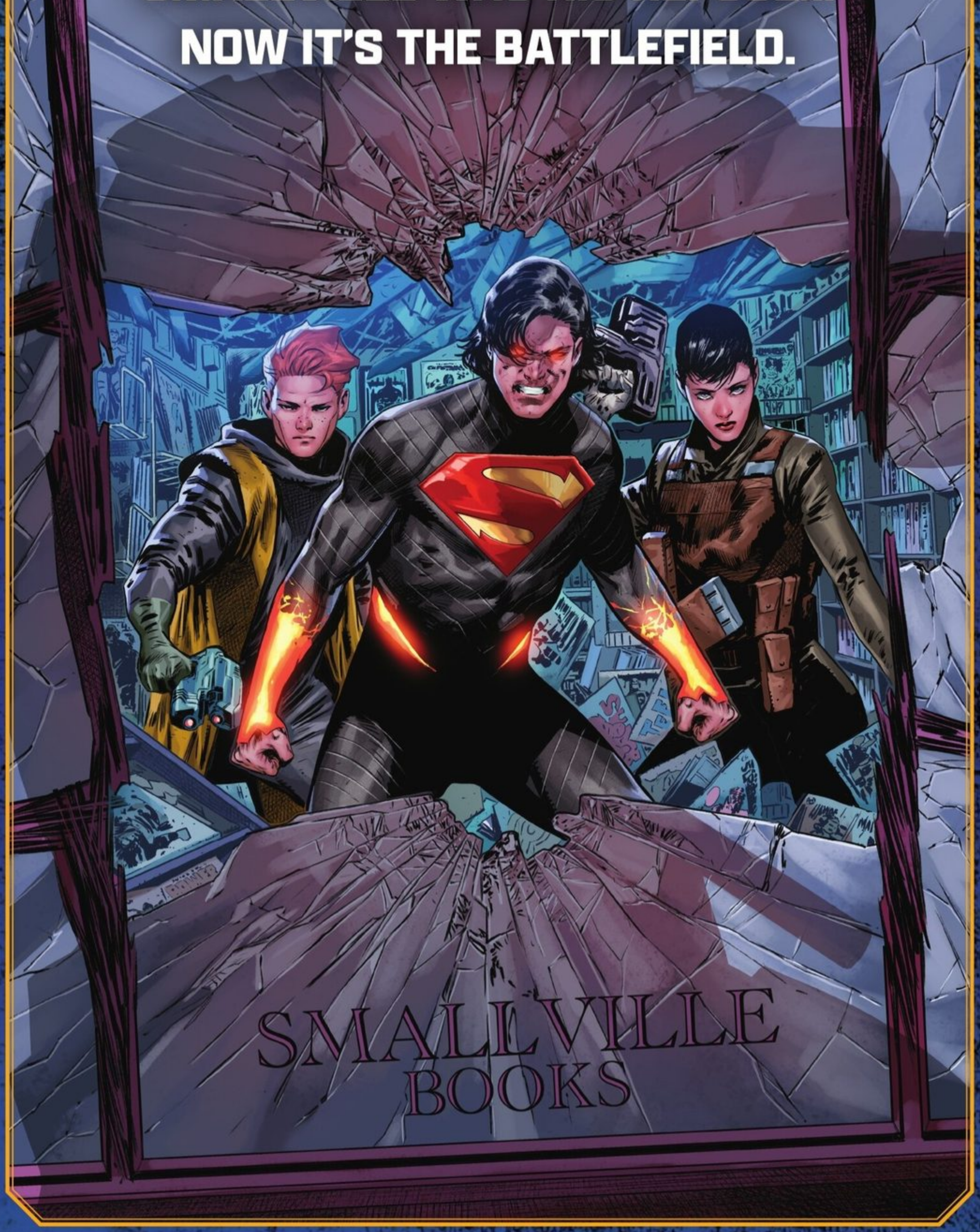
It's all in the Jönn-Jönnz

To be **CONTINUED.**

SUMMER OF SUPERMAN

ABSOLUTE SUPERMAN #8

SMALLVILLE WAS HIS REFUGE...
NOW IT'S THE BATTLEFIELD.



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Written by JASON AARON • Art by RAFA SANDOVAL

ALL IN

THE SECOND EPIC
ARC BEGINS
JUNE

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. GODZILLA VS. KONG 2

INTERVIEW WITH BRIAN BUCCELLATO

Get ready for another epic showdown in *Justice League vs. Godzilla vs. Kong 2*! In this highly anticipated sequel, the Justice League faces even bigger challenges as Task Force X unleashes new hybrid Titans to threaten both Earth and Legendary Earth. *New York Times* bestselling writer Brian Buccellato dives into the thrilling developments and new twists fans can expect from this monstrous sequel.

What made you excited about jumping back into the epic world of *Justice League vs. Godzilla vs. Kong*?

Besides passionately loving both worlds and having the tattoos to prove it, the first series was absolutely the most fun I've ever had. So coming back and doing it again was a no-brainer for me.

How are you planning to take things to the next level? What bigger challenges can the Justice League expect this time around?

I've got a few tricks up my sleeve. First, I wanted to take the DC heroes to the Legendary Earth so we could have fun in their world—which includes monsters like King Ghidorah and Rodan, and the massive creatures that lurk within Hollow Earth.

Taking on Gidorah, Rodan, and some still-unannounced Legendary Titans will give the heroes a bunch of gigantic new challenges to overcome. And of course, there is still Godzilla and Kong to contend with.

Which new characters or team-ups are you most looking forward to, and what makes those pairings so special?

Spoiler...since we last saw Lex Luthor in the first series, he has been thrust into Task Force X against his will. So he will be involved with Amanda Waller, the Suicide Squad, and a surprise villain from the Legendary world.

Also, taking a page from all the fun I had working on *Injustice*...Batman and Harley Quinn are among the most unlikely pairings in the series.

How has your collaboration with artist Christian Duce evolved since the first crossover?

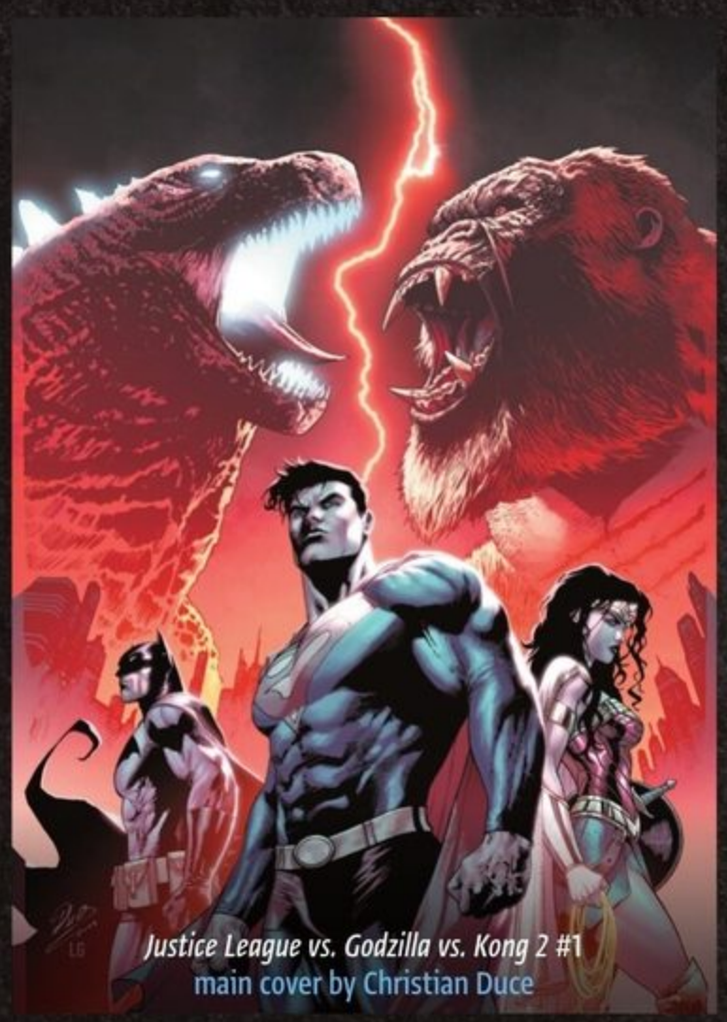
I don't know if it has evolved, per se...I think he's such a talented and skilled artist that he is making my job as easy as he did last time. And in return I'm trying to give him a few more splash pages and two-page spreads. Last time I packed so much story into the issues that I didn't do him any favors with panel counts. Sorry, Christian! I promise to do better this time.

What do you think fans will love most about this sequel? What moments or surprises should they look out for?

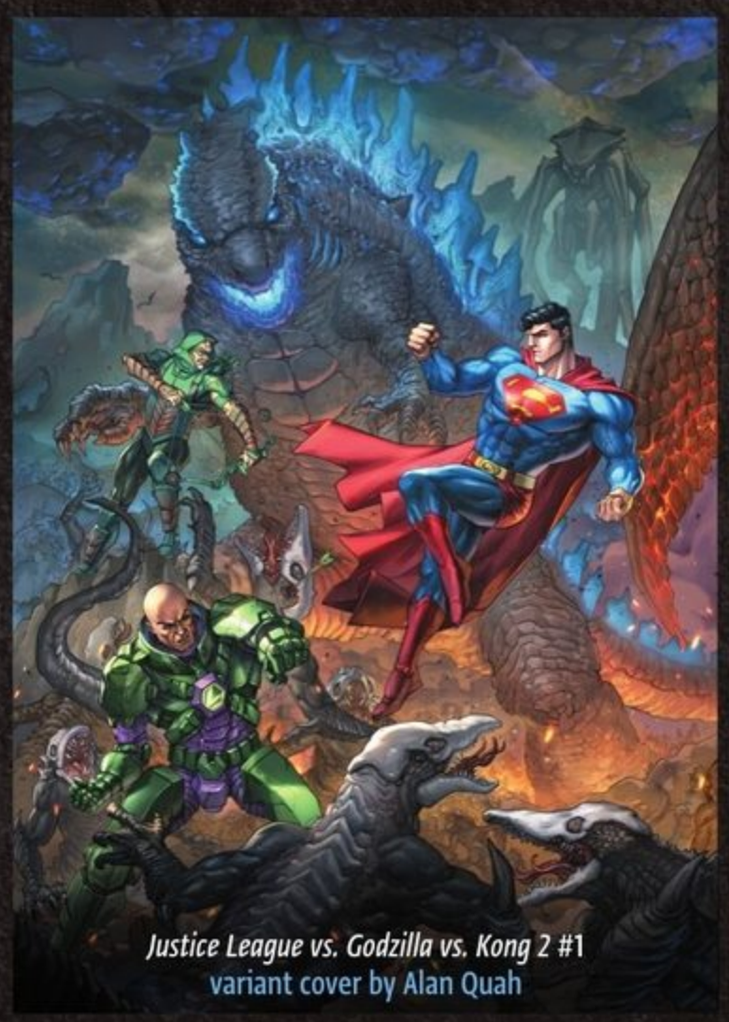
The "Titanizing" is a big deal, both in-story and visually for the readers. The DC heroes going toe-to-toe with the Titans is a spectacle you wouldn't normally get to see. Can't wait to see what Christian does with those pages!

Also, Superman versus Godzilla. The rematch. We can't have the sequel series without that.

Justice League vs. Godzilla vs. Kong 2 #1
variant cover by Dan Mora



Justice League vs. Godzilla vs. Kong 2 #1
main cover by Christian Duce



Justice League vs. Godzilla vs. Kong 2 #1
variant cover by Alan Quah

DON'T MISS *JUSTICE LEAGUE VS. GODZILLA VS. KONG 2* #1, ON SALE IN JUNE!

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